NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH BRECK & CO., NO. 52 NORTH MARKET STREET, (Agricultural Warehouse.)—ALLEN PUTNAM, EDITOR.

VOL. XXII.] BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 5, 1843. [NO. 1.

N. E. FARMER.

We find the following in the Mark-Lane (London) Express, of May 29:

AGRICULTURAL MISSION FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Mr Henry Colman, of the State of New York, has come to England, at the request of a very large number of the farmers of the United States of America, to inquire into the farming and condition of the rural population in England and on the Continent, with a view to ascertain their improvements, and obtain such information in every department of agriculture and horticulture, and rural and domestic economy in general, as may be beneficial to his own country. He is familiar from long experience, with all the practical operations and details of American husbandry, having been employed by the Government of Massachusetts for several years, as commissioner for the agricultural survey of that most improved State in the Union. His reports have been favorably received in this country. He brings with him numerous letters to gentlemen of the highest consideration in this country and on the continent; and has likewise diplomas from the American Agricultural Society, at Washington; the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society, at Philadelphia; the New York State Agricultural Society; the American Institute, at New York; the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, at Boston; and the farmers of Massachusetts, at a public meeting held at the State House, in Boston; and other societies in the United States, commending him and his objects to the friends of agricultural and rural improvement, wherever they may be found.

Mr Colman's objects, we understand, are wholly public and practical, and entirely disconnected with any party or political considerations whatever. He proposes to spend a year or more in England, in visiting as far as may be, every part of the country—England, Scotland and Ireland—and then to proceed to the Continent, to examine the husbandry of France, Belgium, Germany, Italy, and other places where information may be obtained, and especially to make himself acquainted with the agricultural and manual labor schools, and the experimental farms.

Mr Colman was, a year ago, elected an honorary member of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, on the motion of the Duke of Richmond, seconded by Lord Spencer.

We have now before us some of Mr Colman's reports on the condition of agriculture in certain districts of the United States, and which contain a vast body of useful information. They clearly prove the ability of Mr Colman to perform the task he has undertaken, and we trust every facility for obtaining information will be afforded him by our agriculturists; if for no other cause, for the selfish one that we believe the reports which he will publish of the agriculture of Great Britain, will be as useful to the British farmer as they will be valuable to the farmers of his own country.

OLD AND NEW FARMS.

Whether it is more profitable in the United States, to lay out money in the purchase and improvement of exhausted farms, or in the clearing and improvement of new land, is a question which requires more mature consideration than has been generally given to it. Calculations embracing the several expenses required in the two operations would seem to show, that the intelligent farmer, versed in the various processes of producing manure and taking advantage of green fallow crops, will lay out his means most profitably in restoring worn-out land to fertility; provided he does not commit the common error of endeavoring to improve more land than his resources will enable him to do justice by.

On the other hand, the man of more limited means, who cannot buy an old farm, or get one on a sufficiently long lease, may, by going west, purchase land at $1 25 per acre, or 200 acres for $250, which will be already in the highest state of fertility, but seriously encumbered with heavy timber or other natural besetment. This he clears and brings under cultivation, little by little, working, perhaps, a certain portion of his time for others, in order to obtain subsistence previous to the coming in of his crops. Every cleared acre may cost him 15 or 20 dollars, which, however, adds the same amount to the value of the farm, whilst every bushel of grain and every addition to his stock, is so much gained. It may be several years before the pioneer will accumulate much property. Still, however, the prospect of an ultimate independence thus held out to the poor and industrious settler, is a good one.

He who has the advantage of sufficient means to enable him to purchase exhausted lands at from 5 to 10, 20, and even 30 or 40 dollars per acre, may, by a judicious application of lime, marl, plaster, and other mineral fertilizers, aided by green fallow crops plowed under to form a mould, soon resuscitate a farm and render it again highly productive and valuable. The following facts will demonstrate the practicability of what is here asserted. More instances could be produced, but this, being on unquestionable authority, is ample for present illustration.

Mr George W. Cummins, of Smyrna, Delaware, purchased a farm near that place, containing about 200 acres. The land had been under cultivation for half a century or more, and its soil so completely exhausted as not to be capable of compensating for the labor and seed expended upon crops. It had, nevertheless, been rented, up to the time of purchase, and one of the conditions was the payment, annually, of two-fifths of the Indian corn crop. From a *thirty acre* field, the rent paid the last year was only about 30 bushels! Clover refused to grow upon this land, and wheat would not yield much more than the seed sown. The soil was a sandy loam. The first step taken by Mr Cummins for the restoration of this land to fertility, was, to sow one bushel of ground plaster per acre, flush it up in the spring, and spread upon it 70 bushels of slaked lime per acre. Oats were then sown at the rate of 2 or 3 bushels to the acre, and in July, when nearly fit for harvest, the straw being partly yellow and partly green, they were plowed under, an ox-chain having been rigged in front of the coulter, so as to turn them down before the plow. Previous to this plowing, 1 1-4 bushel more of ground plaster of Paris was sprinkled on the ground. A second crop of oats sprung up in a thick mat from those plowed under, and about the first of October, these were turned down by the plow like the first growth. Wheat was now sown, about 1 1-2 bushel to the acre, and harrowed in, followed by clover early in the spring. The crop of wheat averaged about 8 bushels to the acre, and this, it will be observed, without a shovelful of stable or any other kind of animal manure. The clover had a bushel of ground plaster sprinkled upon it in the spring, and yielded, the second season of its growth, about a ton per acre at the first mowing. Thus, land from which the vegetable mould had been entirely exhausted, was, in a comparatively short time, and without the assistance of barn-yard or any other kind of animal manure, brought into a condition to yield compensating crops of wheat, corn, and vigorous clover. By the assistance of the ordinary quantity of barn-yard manure, the produce of wheat would average about 25 bushels, and of Indian corn 40 or 50 bushels per acre. The whole expenses incurred by Mr Cummins preparatory to the wheat and clover crops, amounted to $13 73; and as the wheat raised was about 8 bushels, and sold for $1 50, and the clover mown about 1 ton per acre, worth about 8 or 10 dollars the ton, the expenses were abundantly repaid by the first crops, and the land left in good heart for future profitable tillage.

When farms are situated near towns, animal manures can generally be obtained at fair prices, and hence the usual productiveness exhibited by lots and fields in the proximity of towns. But with large farms situated at too great distances from such places to admit of the transportation of stable manure or street dirt at fair prices, the farmers are left to the fertilizing substances at hand, or to the purchase of concentrated manure that will bear the cost of transportation, such as lime, ashes, soot, plaster, crushed bones, poudrette prepared from night soil, &c., the salts of nitre, soda, ammonia, etc. Those who live near enough to marl-beds to admit of the hauling of such heavy substances at a fair cost, are indeed fortunate. Then there are the manures or composts prepared from peat, by the addition of ashes, the salts of potash, soda, &c., the merits of all which can now be readily ascertained from the results of actual experiments, reported in numerous recent publications, upon agricultural matters, and especially in that highly valuable little treatise by Dr. Dana, "The Muck Manual."—*Farmers' Encyclop.*

There are two things which ought to teach us to think but meanly of human glory; the *very best* have had their calumniators, and the *very worst* their panegyrists.—*Lacon.*

BUDDING.

Budding, or grafting by germs, says Mr London consists, in ligneous plants, in taking an eye or bud attached to a portion of the bark, and transporting it to a place on another or different ligneous vegetable. In herbaceous vegetables the same operation may be performed, but with less success. The object in view in budding, is almost always that of grafting, and depends on the same principle, all the difference between a bud and a scion being, that a bud is a shoot or scion in embryo; in other respects, budding is conducted on the same principles as grafting. In every case, the bud and the stock must be botanically related. An apple may be budded on a pear or thorn, but not upon a plum or peach. Common budding is performed from the beginning of July to the middle of August.

It is indispensable that the bud to be inserted should be fully formed or ripe. After the incision of the stock, great care must be taken in raising the bark, that the *cambium* be not scraped or injured. The *cambium* is that soft portion between the wood and the bark destined to give support to the descending fibres of the buds, which fibres subsequently become embedded in it. In budding, therefore, the bark must be very carefully lifted up, and not forced from the wood with a bone or metal blade as is too often done.

For propagating choice fruit, the operation of budding possesses several advantages over that of grafting. "It is," says Buel, "more readily performed, with fewer implements, less preparation, and with greater success; it does not injure the stock if unsuccessful, and the operation may be twice or thrice repeated the same year, as the season for its performance is protracted, for some one or other of the varieties, for some three months. Although July and August constitute the ordinary season for budding, the plum and cherry may often be budded in the latter part of June, and the peach, apricot and nectarine as late as the middle of September.

"The first consideration is to provide stalks, if this provision has not already been made. Seeds may be collected the coming season in almost every family. Those of stone fruit may be mixed with earth, or deposited in a hole in the garden, and in the autumn buried superficially in the earth, to expose them to the expanding influence of the frost; and in the spring those of the peach and plum that have not burst the shell should be cracked, and the whole sown in a well prepared seed bed. The cherries may be sown immediately after they are taken from the fruit, and the apple, pear, and quince either in autumn or spring. All the kinds will generally grow the first season. The same rule applies to plants as to animals; the better condition they are kept in while young, the more profitable they will become at maturity. Thus two or three roods of ground will suffice a farmer for a nursery of choice fruit, from which he may replenish his orchard and his garden at pleasure, and readily appropriate to his use every new variety which comes under his observatiou. No one will regret the trifling labor and attention which he has bestowed on a little plantation of this kind, after he has begun to realize the fruits of it. Ornamental shrubs and trees, to embellish the grounds about his buildings, may be added without cost and with trifling labor."—*Farmers' Encyclop.*

ACID IN SOILS.

That valuable agricultural journal, the American Farmer, published at Baltimore, copies Dr. Dana's article upon oxalic acid, &c., and prefaces it with the following remarks:

It has become mooted questions of late, whether there be acid in the soil? and if there be, whether lime will so neutralize it as to destroy *sorrel* and other sour vegetables? Some have affirmed, that the doctrine which ascribes vegetable acid, or as it is chemically termed, oxalic acid, as the cause of the growth of sorrel, is unsound; others that sorrel cannot be destroyed by the application of lime. Now, for ourself, from our own experience, we are forced to believe, that there is truth both in the fact of the existence of the acid, and in the competency of lime, as a neutralizer, to remove it. Our reason for this opinion is a plain one and soon told. We had some years ago a lot of about two acres of sandy land, resting upon a clay bottom, so infested with sorrel as to destroy two successive crops of clover. The land had never been limed, and believing that the presence of the sorrel was owing to a superabundant supply of acid in the soil, we determined to try the effect in neutralizing it, and it so turned out that we had some *freshly burned, unslacked oyster-shell lime* on hand, two hundred bushels of which we spread over the two acres of ground, on the top of the lay of sorrel, for it was then several inches high, plowed both the lime and the sorrel in, on the 20th of July, and on the 15th of August following, we gave the ground another plowing returning the lime to the surface, which had become tolerably well slacked. We let the lot remain until the following spring, when we sowed it in oats and clover, and was never again troubled with our old enemy, the sorrel. As there has been considerable discussion of late upon this subject and no little diversion of opinion upon this matter, we have thought that it might be interesting to our readers to know the views entertained by that eminent chemist, Professor Dana, of Lowell, Mass., whose admirable work upon agriculture, shows that *his* opinion is entitled to profound consideration. It has been alleged in support of the position, that lime will not destroy *sorrel*, that in many instances, where lime had been applied to the soil, that the sorrel had continued to grow, and even that in some instances had grown through coatings of marl, which is mainly the carbonate of lime, or, to speak more plainly, lime in a slacked state. This, we think, is very plainly and satisfactorily accounted for by Professor Dana. His views are, that the lime should be plowed in, in an unslacked state, and not be left on the surface to become slacked by the elements; that the vegetable acid of the soil reaches much deeper than the minute portions of the lime which is dissolved by rain can penetrate, that if the slacking takes place by air alone, that, as carbonate of lime is insoluble, none of its active neutralizing principles enter the soil, and, therefore, cannot affect the sorrel, unless, perhaps, by preparing it, through the vegetable matter which it may have caused to decompose, additional food, by which its capacity for sustaining life is increased rather than diminished. This is our reading of the Dr.'s communication, and as his *theory* corresponds with our own *practice*, we feel justified in commending his views to public notice.

Do n't let your hogs get out of materials for manure-making. Throw in turf, muck, weeds, &c.

GERMINATION.

Germination is the process by which a plant is produced from a seed. It is, in truth, the springing into life of a new individual. The phenomena of germination are best observed in dicotyledonous seeds; such, for instance, as the bean, pea, lupin, &c. These seeds consist of two lobes, or cotyledons, enveloped in a common membrane; when this is removed, a small projecting body is seen, which is that part of the germ which subsequently becomes the *root*, and is termed the *radicle*; the other portion of the germ is seen on carefully separating the *cotyledons*, and is termed the *plumula*; it afterwards forms the stem and leaves. When the ripe seed is removed from the parent plant, it gradually dries, and may be kept often for an indefinite period, without undergoing any change; but if placed under circumstances favorable to its germination, it soon begins to grow; these requisite circumstances are, a due temperature, moisture, and the presence of air. The most favorable temperature is between 60° and 80°; at the freezing point none of the most perfect seeds vegetate, and at a temperature above 100°, the young germ is usually injured. No seed will grow without moisture: water is at first absorbed by the pores of the external covering, and decomposed; the seed gradually swells, its membranes burst, and the germ expands. The root is at first most rapidly developed, the materials for its growth being derived from the cotyledons; and when it shoots out its fibres or rootlets, these absorb nourishment from the soil, and the plumula is developed, rising upwards in a contrary direction to the root, and expanding into stem and leaves. For this growth, the presence of air is requisite; if it be totally excluded, though there be heat and moisture, yet the seed will not vegetate. Hence it is that seeds buried very deep in the earth, or in a stiff clay, remain inert; but on admission of air, by turning up the soil, begin to vegetate. Light is injurious to the growth of the seed. It is, therefore, obvious that the different requisites for germination are attained by placing a seed under the surface of the soil, where warmed by the sun's rays, and moistened by the humidity of the atmosphere, it is excluded from light, but the air has access to it.—*Far. Encyclop.*

MR COLMAN IN ENGLAND.

At the anniversary meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, held in London on the 22d of May, the Right Hon. Earl Spencer in the chair, after a choice of officers for the coming year had been made, and the list of prizes reported, Mr Colman, late Agricultural Commissioner of Massachusetts, being present, addressed the meeting, thanking them for the honor conferred upon him by the Society in making him an honorary member, and expressing his conviction that the prizes offered for the best essays on the agricultural state of the counties, would lead to the most beneficial results. We learn, also, from the same source, (the Mark-Lane Express,) that Mr Colman was present at a weekly council of the Society, held on the 24th of May, Earl Spencer presiding, and presented to the Council several American geological and agricultural reports, for the library of the Society, for which presents the best thanks of the Council were ordered to be returned to Mr C., and also to Dr. Mease, Vice President of the Philadelphia Agricul. Society, for his present, through Mr Colman, of the last volume of the Society's memoirs.

BARLEY.

Barley is said to contain 65 per cent. of nutritive matter; wheat contains 78 per cent. A bushel of barley weighing 50 lbs., will therefore contain about 32 lbs. of nutriment; while a bushel of wheat weighing 60 lbs., contains 47 lbs. Good oats weighing 40 lbs., contain about 24 lbs. of nutritive matter; so that the comparative value of wheat, barley, and oats, in feeding cattle, may be represented by 47, 32, and 24, the measure being the same.

There is no grain perhaps more affected (says Baxter,) by soil and cultivation than barley—the same species exhibiting opposite qualities, modified by the nature of the soil from which it is produced; these opposite productions of the same individual, will, if sown at the same period, on the same land, and under the same course of cultivation, exhibit corresponding differences, which are manifested during the growth of the crop, and subsequently in the quality of the sample when in hand. Thus, the finest samples, the growth of suitable and well cultivated lands, would, if sown on a poor and sterile soil, become alike coarse in appearance and indifferent in quality. This fact, however important, has hitherto but little engaged the attention of the farmer.

The land that produces the best barley, is generally of a silicious, light, dry nature. Cold, wet soils, which are peculiarly retentive of water, are ill adapted to the growth of this grain. The whole matter of barley and its straw contains more silicious particles than that of any other grain cultivated by the British farmer; and hence one reason why a sandy soil is most congenial to the growth of this plant.

In the choice of seed, great care should be taken that it is not of a reddish hue, as in that case it is more than probable that a great part of it will never vegetate. The seed should be of a pale, lively color, and plump.

In the harvesting of barley more care is requisite than in taking any other of the white crops, even in the best of seasons; and in bad years it is found very difficult to save it. When the period of harvest arrives, barley must be allowed to be sufficiently ripe, but not become what is termed "dead ripe." It may be cut either by the scythe or the sickle.

Barley, says Professor Low, on account of the softness of its stem, and the tendency of its ears to vegetate, is more apt to be injured, and even destroyed by wet weather, than any other of the cereal grains. For this reason, the safer course is, when cut down, to place it in sheaves and shocks, and not to allow it, as is frequently the case, to lie loose upon the ground. It not unfrequently occurs, that when it is supposed to be well harvested, heat is soon found to subsist in the mows, which should be daily examined, by placing a long iron spit, which should be kept for that purpose, deep into the mow; when, if the heat is found to increase, no delay should take place, but the middle should be instantly cut asunder, and taken out in proportion to the size of the mow, when it will generally escape without further injury.

Barley is not only the most useful grain for making into malt, but it is the best food for promoting the fattening of hogs, after they have been fed to a certain extent with beans, peas, &c., from which it has been found that the meat is not only more tender, but increases in boiling. Barley is employed for various other purposes. It is excellent for fattening poultry. For food of horses, two parts of barley are equal to three parts of oats. In Germany, they grind the barley, and form it into cakes, with which they feed their horses; and it is no unusual circumstance, in travelling in that country, to see the driver eating a slice from the same loaf with which he feeds his horses.

M. Saussure has carefully analyzed the ashes produced by burning barley and its straw. The grain reduced to ashes, with its skin, gave, out of 100 parts, 18 of ashes, which contained—

Potash,	18.
Phosphate of potash,	9.2
Sulphate of potash,	1.5
Muriate of potash,	0.25
Earthy phosphates,	32.5
Silica,	35.5
Metallic oxides,	0.25
Loss,	2.8
	100.

1000 parts of the straw produced 42 of ashes, containing—

Potash,	16.
Sulphate of potash,	3.5
Muriate of potash,	0.5
Earthy phosphates,	7.75
Earthy carbonates,	12.5
Silica,	57.
Metallic oxides,	0.5
Loss,	2.25
	100.

These products no doubt vary in different soils; but the proportion of silica in the straw and in the skin of barley, is remarkable. This barley grew on a chalky soil. In addition to these, the cubic saltpetre, or nitrate of soda, is usually found in minute proportions in barley.—*Farmers' Encyclop.*

CANADA THISTLE.

The root of the Canada thistle is perennial, creeping, and exceedingly tenacious of life, which, with its prolific character, for it springs up from the filaments of the roots as well as from seed, makes it the vilest pest in the form of a weed that has ever invaded American farms. The utmost vigilance will be required to prevent its spread wherever it may be discovered.

A great many devices have been resorted to for the eradication and destruction of the Canada thistle. Some aim at the entire removal of the root by machines contrived to cut off and harrow up the roots. Others rely upon mowing down the thistles when they are in full bloom, as a most certain method. Not content with simply cutting down, some apply common salt to the stems or crowns of the roots, which makes the destruction more sure. Low and frequent cutting down in summer, about the blooming period, will doubtless destroy plants, however tenacious of life they may be, since the roots are as much indebted for life to their leaves or lungs, as the leaves are to the roots. Neither can subsist long without the aid of the other important members of the system.—*Ibid.*

Hay Crop in Worcester County.—Many of our farmers have commenced haying in good earnest. The rapidity of vegetation during the present month has been wonderful. The crop of grass is unusually large and fine, and promises to be well cured and housed.—*Barre Gaz.*

TABLE

Showing the length of Railways radiating from, and in connection with, the City of Boston.

		Miles.
From Boston, via	Albany, to Buffalo,	518
do.	Portsmouth to Portland,	104
do.	Lowell, Nashua, and Concord,	62
do.	to Providence,	41
From Providence to Stonington,		47
Branch from Andover to Haverhill,		25 1-2
Dedham branch,		2
Taunton branch, and extension to New Bedford,		35
Bedford and Fall River,		13
Norwich and Worcester,		58 1-2
New Haven to Hartford, 36, and extension to Springfield, 24 miles, not completed,		60
West Stockbridge to Bridgeport,		98
West Stockbridge to Hudson,		33
Troy to Schenectady,		22
Troy to Ballston,		20
Schenectady and Saratoga,		21
Lockport, Niagara Falls, and Buffalo,		43
	Miles,	1,203

—*Railroad Journal.*

Essex Agricultural Society.—The premiums offered by this Society for the best cultivated farm of not less than fifty acres, exclusive of woodland, regard being had to particular improvements within a few years past, the quantity of produce, the manure, and expense of cultivation, with a statement in writing of all facts in relation to the same, are:

1st premium, Thirty dollars,
2d premium, Fifteen dollars.

The annual Cattle Show of the Society will take place at Andover, on the last Wednesday of September next. Address by Hon. Leverett Saltonstall.

To get rich.—Nothing is easier, says Mr Paulding, than to grow rich. It is only to trust nobody, to befriend none, to get everything, and save all we get, to stint ourselves and everybody belonging to us, to be the friend of no man, and to have no man our friend; to heap interest upon interest, cent upon cent; to be mean, miserable and despised for some twenty or thirty years, and riches will come as sure as disease and disappointment. Such people live without enjoyment, without having done any good to their kind, and die despised.

A Mother's Love.—A writer beautifully remarks that a man's mother is the representative of his Maker. Misfortune, and even crime, set up no barriers between her and her son. Whilst his mother lives, he will have one friend on earth who will not desert him, who will not listen when he is slandered, who will solace him in his sorrow, and cheer him with hope when he is ready to despair. Her affection knows no ebbing tide. It flows from a pure fountain, spreading happiness through all this vale of tears, and ceases only at the ocean of eternity.—*Selected.*

Ages of Distinguished Men.—Messrs. Van Buren, Calhoun, Johnson and Cass, were born in 1782. Mr Webster was born the same year. They are now, therefore, 61 years of age. Mr Clay was born in 1777, Mr Tyler in 1790, John Quincy Adams in 1767.—*Exch. pap.*

ACID IN SOILS.

To the Editor of the New England Farmer:

Although by some it may not be considered perfectly compatible with my professional avocation, I plead guilty to a great interest in the cause of agriculture, and especially to those applications of science which promise so much benefit to those engaged in that pursuit. Among the journals devoted to the farming interest, into which I occasionally look, is yours; and in the one of May 17, I observed a paper from Mr Darling, of New Haven, on the subject of sorrel, or the existence of acid in soils. On this paper, with your leave, I wish to make a remark or two.

And first, Mr Darling seems to be uncertain whether the acid of the common sorrel *(Rumex acetosa,)* is the same as that of wood sorrel *(Oxalis acetosella.)* There can be no doubt as to the identity of the acid. It is the same in both—the oxalic acid—and it is the same that is found in the gentian, bistort, and rhubarb, or pie plant, so much cultivated in our gardens. In all these plants, the acid is in combination with potash; but in some other vegetables, such as the rock lichens or mosses, in which this acid is abundant, it is combined with lime. Oxalic acid is very soluble in water, but when in combination with lime, it forms one of the most insoluble compounds, and hence from this cause, and from their affinity for each other, they are frequently used as tests of each other's presence. Now it appears evident that a mere solution of the crystals of oxalic acid, does not destroy its character, and if the solution should take place in the earth, or if a decomposition of the oxalate of potash as it exists in sorrel, rhubarb, &c., takes place in the soil, it must remain in solution, and consequently liable to be taken up by plants, unless a recombination in some other form takes place.

The extensive and varied experiments of Mr Ruffin, and his able reasoning founded on them, in his valuable work on the subject of lime and marl as manures, would seem to demonstrate that acids do exist in the soil, both free, and in a state of combination; and as lime combines with the acid readily to form oxalate of lime, and parts with it most reluctantly, it would seem reasonable that oxalate of lime may be formed in this way; and if so, the use of lime as a corrective of acidity, must be apparent. A number of years since, I lived in a district in which hemlock timber was abundant. The soil was frequently a deep fine loam, but produced sorrel in most instances so profusely as to leave little room for any thing else. This was attributed to the "sourness" communicated to the soil from the annual fall and decomposition of the leaves of the hemlock, as these are known to contain appreciable quantities of acid. The remedy for this, was a thorough burning of the surface, and hence in clearing hemlock land, great care was taken to expose as much of the surface to the operation of the fire as possible. This was the result of experience; and is explained on the ground that the fire, by the formation of an alkali on the surface, converted the acid into oxalate of potash; or if the soil contained lime, into oxalate of lime; in either of which forms it would be less injurious than in its free state. The same result would take place if quick lime was applied to the soil; the acids would enter into combination with it, and in that state being insoluble, or nearly so, could not furnish the material essential to the formation of acid plants. If after the application of the lime, the acid was still in excess, sorrel might still grow in spite of the alkali; and this fact might be adduced to account for Mr Darling's sorrel that grew on the verge of the lime-kiln.

I do not assert that free oxalic acid ever exists in soils, though it is scarcely possible to conceive it should not do so; and in a state of solution, experience proves that plants take up this as well as any other acid or salt that may be furnished them in a sufficiently diluted state. There is certainly a formidable array of names in favor of the opinion that acids do exist in soils:—the Albany Cultivator, pronounced by Mr Darling "the ablest agricultural journal in the country"—David Thomas, of Cayuga, one of the most scientific and practical farmers of the country—Mr Ruffin, who has devoted more attention to the subject than perhaps any other man living—and though last not least, Dr. Jackson, himself a host in matters relating to the chemistry of agriculture. I have purposely confined myself to the authorities of this country; in Europe, the existence of *sour soils*, or those containing acid, and consequently unfit for cultivation until this acidity is corrected, does not seem to be doubted by any one. It is frequently said that as oxalic acid has never been detected in a soil, it must be formed in the plants in which it is found. I would ask whether it is not reasonable to suppose that the formation of the oxalates of potash in sorrel, rhubarb, &c., and of oxalate of lime in the lichen, takes place from the union in the plants of the acid and the potash, and the acid and the lime, all taken from the earth in a state of solution, and brought first into contact in this organized laboratory.

Mr Darling remarks, emphatically, "*that no acid exists in vegetables except in a state of combination with some alkali.*" This, I think, is a slight mistake. It is sufficient to notice to the contrary, the *Cicer arietinum*, or chick-pea, of the Levant, and which is also common in Italy, and the south of France. This is a vetch, extensively cultivated for its grateful and refrigerating character, qualities owing to the oxalic acid it furnishes. During the heats of summer, the stem and leaves of this plant exude small drops of fluid, which on evaporation, leave behind crystals, formed of uncombined or pure oxalic acid. Medical men are aware, that from the ease with which oxalic acid combines with lime, and the insoluble nature of the salt so formed, the use of the plants containing this acid such as rhubarb, sorrel, cicer, &c. &c., by those persons predisposed to calculous diseases, is extremely improper. Many interesting facts in regard to this acid, and the plants containing it, may be found in Majeudie's work on gravel.

I shall only add here, that I am happy to see the practical men of our country turning their attention to such subjects as the one here indicated. Matter of fact questions as these are, farmers are the men to furnish the facts by which they must ultimately be determined; and the number of competent observers in this class is rapidly increasing. Chemistry they must leave to the student and the laboratory, and the American farmer should rejoice that so far as he is concerned, it is in the hands of such men as Dana, Silliman, Jackson, &c., men who are willing to devote their great talents and acquirements to the aid of a cause, in the success of which we all thrive, and by which we all live.

MEDICUS.

Syracuse, N. Y., June 20, 1843.

CROWS.

Wilson, in his American Ornithology, says that "crows have been employed to catch crows by the following stratagem: A live crow is pinned by the wings down to the ground, on his back, by means of two sharpened sticks. Thus situated, his cries are loud and incessant, particularly if any other crows are in view. These sweeping down about him, are instantly grappled and held fast by the prostrate prisoner, with the same instinctive impulse that urges a drowning person to grasp at every thing within his reach. The game being disengaged from his clutches, the trap is again ready for another experiment; and by pinning down each captive successively, as soon as taken, in a short time you will probably have a large flock screaming above you, in concert with the enraged prisoners below."

The same author mentions an agreeable instance of attachment in a crow. "A gentleman who resided on the Delaware, a few miles below Easton, had reared a crow, with whose tricks and society he used frequently to amuse himself. This crow lived long in the family, but at length disappeared, having, as was then supposed, been shot by some vagrant gunner. About eleven months after this, as the gentleman one morning, in company with several others, was standing on the river shore, a number of crows happening to pass by, one of them left the flock, and flying directly towards the company, alighted on the gentleman's shoulder, and began to gabble away with great volubility, as one long absent friend naturally enough does, on meeting another. On recovering from his surprise, the gentleman instantly recognized his old acquaintance, and endeavored by several civil, but sly manœuvres, to lay hold of him; but the crow, not altogether relishing quite so much familiarity, having now had a taste of the sweets of liberty, cautiously eluded all his attempts, and suddenly glancing his eye on his distant companions, mounted in the air after them, soon overtook and mingled with them, and was never afterwards seen to return'.'—*Jesse's Gleanings.*

The above anecdote reminds us of a little incident recently mentioned by a friend, who, in his travels in the summer of 1832, stopped for the night at a public house in Bucks county, and was much amused by the motions of an active, voluble and intelligent crow, who vigilantly superintended the business of the hostler. He first leaped into the carriage, apparently to give directions about the baggage. The hostler, either intentionally or accidentally, left a part of it behind, but the crow, on discovering it, was excessively restive and vociferous until it was all removed. He then followed the horses to the shed, where they were hitched, in order to be properly groomed. He walked round and round them, examining their heels, while the hostler was cleaning them, and wherever a speck of mud was observed that should be removed, his boisterous gabbling gave the servant no rest, till it was attended to. When everything was done to his satisfaction, he strutted off with all the consequence of a gentleman who felt that his orders were law. Mine host himself could hardly have shown more interest in the baggage and horses than did his jet-black crowship.—*Farmers' Cabinet.*

Strong alum-water sprinkled on the leaves of the gooseberry bush, will destroy the caterpillars.

From the Albany Cultivator.

PEACH TREES.

My grandfather, Ralph Voorhees, of this town, has long been a most successful cultivator of the peach tree, and from information derived from him, I select for publication a few hints, together with some particulars obtained from other sources.

Peach stones should be buried in the fall, in dry ground; cover them slightly; freezing is no injury. In the spring, dig them up, crack them, but leave the pits within the shells, as this is most according to nature, and so plant them. If the stones are not cracked when planted, they may not vegetate until the second year; and indeed my informant has known them in one instance, to lie half a dozen years before coming up.

July, though a good time for inoculating plum trees, is too early for the peach. If peach trees are inoculated in this month, every rain causes the wound to send forth a quantity of gum, which becomes hard, and is hurtful to the buds. This evil will be diminished, if the operation is deferred until August, or, what is still better, the early part of September. Set the buds on the north side of the tree; the sun will not be so likely to dry them up.

Peach trees, in this region, are much infested by ants. These insects gnaw the bark, producing a flow of gum; they also gather upon the leaves, cause them to curl up and turn yellow, thereby hurting the growth of the tree. I should like to hear whether the same plague exists elsewhere.

Urine, thrown frequently around the bodies and roots of the trees, is a powerful stimulant to their growth, and preserves them in a great measure from the worm. Mr Voorhees treated his trees in this manner last year; and among the whole number, consisting of about fifty, but one worm was detected during the season; nor were the ants so troublesome as formerly. Some persons cover the base of the tree with tar, and no doubt it is serviceable against both worms and ants. I believe the ravages of the worm may be prevented in a variety of ways, without resorting to the plan recommended in recent papers, of setting vermifuge plants, as tansy or wormwood, around the trees. It is worthy of inquiry, whether wormwood used for this purpose, would not be highly prejudicial to the growth of the tree, as this plant is noted for its power of draining the soil of its potash, an ingredient exceedingly useful to fertility. It is better to keep the earth for some distance around the trunk, clear of weeds, grass, and all living plants; and when young trees are set out, the ground should be kept under cultivation several years afterwards; for which purpose, one of the crops best adapted is potatoes. A. R. McCORD.

Lagrange, Duchess co., N. Y.

A correspondent of the Albany Cultivator says his horse was cured of inflammation in the eye by the following treatment: "Take sassafras twigs of one year's growth; take the inner bark, a handful to a pint of cold water; let it stand for a few hours; it will become thick, like the white of an egg: wash the eye out well; it will remove the inflammation. *For a film on the eye*, pulverize loaf sugar as fine as possible; fill a quill with it, and blow it in the eye; it will remove the film. My horse was entirely blind, and the above cured him, so that he can see as well as ever."

STIRRING THE SOIL.

The cultivator will derive many advantages from a careful investigation of the support yielded by the vapor of the atmosphere to his plants. He will perceive that its unvaried presence affords an additional reason why the air should be allowed to circulate freely through the well pulverized and loosened soil, to the roots of all growing crops; and let him, above all, avoid the very common erroneous opinion, that the atmosphere is ever *dry*: the fact is the very opposite. The chemist's laborious investigations have clearly demonstrated, that though the watery vapor varies in amount, yet it is never absent from the atmosphere, but that it happily always the more abounds where the cultivator's crops need its assistance most; it is then the most able to furnish the roots of his grain crops with all the moisture they require; and if it is unable to penetrate to them, the fault is not in the wise economy of nature, but in the carelessness of the cultivator, who is either too inattentive to see the advantages which he might thus freely derive, or too indolent to loosen the case-hardened soil, which prevents the entrance of the requisite supply of moisture.

One of the causes of the unproductiveness of cold, clayey, adhesive soils, as Davy well remarked, is, that the seed is coated with matter impermeable to air. The farmer can convince himself of these facts by the simplest of all experiments. Let him merely use his rake or his hoe on a portion of a bed of wheat or turnips, or any other kind of crop, and let him, in the driest weather, merely keep this portion of soil loose by this gentle stirring, and he will find that, instead of prejudicing his crop by *letting out the moisture*, as is often ignorantly supposed, something is evidently *let into* the soil; for the portion thus tilled will be soon visibly increased in luxuriance by the mere manual labor thus bestowed; and in this experiment, which I have often tried, I am supposing that both portions of the ground are equally free from weeds; that in every other respect, the treatment of both the tilled and undisturbed portions of the experimental plot is exactly the same. To a very great extent, some of the best of the English farmers have long found out these facts, and have acted upon the discovery. The horse-hoe of the east and south of England, in the driest days of summer, may be seen at work in the large sandy turnip fields of Norfolk and Suffolk, with unvaried regularity; not for the mere destruction of weeds, but for the chief and highly beneficial purpose of increasing the circulation of the gases and vapor of the air. "The longer I keep stirring the soil between my turnip drills," said Lord Leicester to me, some years since, "in dry weather, the better the turnips grow."

The absolute necessity for all crops receiving a regular supply of carbonic acid gas, will explain to the farmer why his crops always yield an inferior produce when they are surrounded by thick plantations of timber trees; and why the portion of all kinds of plantations growing on the side of the field the most exposed to the winds is almost always of the most luxuriant growth; it will explain to him the reason why many skilful farmers drill their corn so that the most prevalent winds may, with the more facility, circulate *along* the rows, instead of across them; and why all farmers find that their crops prosper better in moderately windy weather than in calms; since in all these instances, and in many other well known popular observations of the same kind, the copious supply of the carbonic acid and oxygen gases of the atmosphere is naturally impeded by thick plantations of other vegetable substances, and promoted by the winds.

The consumption of oxygen gas by the *roots* of plants, and their increase of growth and vigor, when their usually impeded supply is increased, is equally fraught with instruction to the cultivator; for it serves to explain the reason why stirring the soil around the roots of trees, according to the fashion of the early vine and olive cultivators of Italy, or merely disturbing the rows of cabbages and turnips, as practiced by the best English farmers, is attended with decided advantage, since it suffers the air to have more free access to their roots. It renders apparent, too, one of the chief reasons why mere subsoil plowing adds so materially to the luxuriant produce of even the poorest cultivated lands, since, as the soil is deepened and pulverized, the atmosphere more freely and more copiously penetrates to the roots of the vegetation it supports. The same facts explain the advantages of deep plowing, of sub-turf plowing, and of trenching; why the indolent farmer in vain tries to render productive his shallow-plowed lands; and why, when the industrious cottager encloses his garden from the barren waste, too poor to sufficiently manure it, he yet renders it productive of excellent crops, by merely trenching it to the depth of 18 or 20 inches.—*Farmers' Encyclop.*

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Saturday, June 17, 1843.

Two boxes of Early Virginia Strawberries from J. F. Trull, Dorchester—the first of the season.

June 24.—Black Hamburg, White Chasselas, and Miller's Burgundy Grapes—fine specimens—from Dr. Howard, Brookline.

Black Hamburg (superior,) White Chasselas, and Black Grapes of St. Michael—fine specimens. Royal George Clingstone Peaches, found by a sure test to be fine flavored—averaging over 6 oz. each. Barrasaube Grapes and St. Michael Figs, and Tomatoes—from J. F. Allen, Salem.

One box Keen's Seedling Strawberries—superb—from Mr Charles Robbins, South Boston.

Victoria or Black Hamburg Grapes—from Col. T. H. Perkins, Brookline.

Fine specimens of Early Virginia Strawberries, from J. F. Trull, Dorchester.

Four boxes of Early Virginia and four of Royal Scarlet Strawberries, from J. L. L. F. Warren, Brighton.

Box of Early Bigareau Cherries, from the President of the Society.

Early Virginia Strawberries—fine specimens—from Messrs. Hovey. Cambridgeport.

Early Virginia Strawberries, from Mr A. H. Hovey, Cambridgeport.

For the Committee,

B. V. FRENCH.

The superficial area of Great Britain comprises about 57 millions of acres, of which 34 millions are in cultivation, and 10 millions of the remainder are susceptible of improvement. With the present population, every 34 acres raise food for about 20 people, and the 10 millions of acres if improved, would feed an additional population of 6 millions.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1843.

☞Those indebted for one or more years' subscription to the Farmer, would greatly oblige the Publishers by settling for the same forthwith; and *all* subscribers are respectfully reminded that the terms of the paper are $2 *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days. Do not "muzzle the ox," &c.

HAY MAKING.

This work is pleasant but laborious. Now the farmer must make long days, and must be busy in the hottest part of the day. He needs good tools—especially good scythes. The best of these that we have any acquaintance with, are made of cast steel. These hold the edge better than others, and require less frequent grindings.

The horse-rake is a great labor-saver, especially in large and smooth fields. Every large farmer should be provided with one. Thus he can get his green hay together with much more dispatch, and can spare the strength of his men in the after part of the day.

When grass has been cut in the morning and spread out of swath at 9, 10 or 11 o'clock, it should be turned up at mid-day. This greatly facilitates its drying, both in the afternoon and through the night.

Hay should be well dried before it is put in the barn —especially *fine* hay. Whether it is best to dry mostly by full exposure to the sun, or whether by keeping it mostly in cock, is not fully settled. Our custom has been to dry as fast as we can by spreading out to sun and wind. This course causes the farmer to have less hay in his fields at a time, and makes the quantity exposed to harm when a storm comes, less. But that this rapid drying is better for the hay, is not certain. One method which we have resorted to in a few instances, may be worth extending. When we have hay in cock, which cannot be made dry enough in one day more, and which yet seems not to require two, we sometimes go to it at mid-day with the fork, and make the cocks over, placing the top at the bottom, and replacing the the whole, taking only small forkfuls at a time. Thus re-cocked, we have found that it makes much in a good day, and that when spread on the following day, it cures very rapidly.

The time we choose for cutting, is when the grass is fairly or fully in blossom.

The grass should be well cut, and the hay well made. Where it becomes desirable to put a load in the barn that is a little under dry, from four to eight quarts of salt per ton will help to preserve it.

If hay is designed for market, one is well paid for breaking all the forkfulls, and even for spreading out evenly over the bay of the barn, when he stows away his hay. Thus put in, the hay comes out of a brighter and more uniform color.

Drinks.—The hay-maker desires drink often and in large quantities. But all articles that heat and intoxicate, should be prohibited. Simple cold water is good—it is *the best* drink. Milk—milk and water—sweetened water—ginger-beer, and such like, make an agreeable variety—but the pure, undamaged water is the best of them all.

The Amount of the Crop.—There has been, and still is, a very common belief that the hay crop for 20 or 30 miles around Boston, will be very abundant. From the highly manured fields in the immediate neighborhood of the city, good crops have already been taken, and have been secured in good order. But we noticed during the latter part of last week, that the grasses on common lands were suffering from the heat and from lack of moisture. Our own fields, to our surprise, as we passed through them on Friday last, seemed to promise only a small crop compared with last year's. We think the crop generally will be less than is expected, but yet that it will not be so short as to cause any scarcity. Should copious rains fall soon, the grass will yet grow much, but if rains are withheld for a fortnight, the hay crop will be less than an average one.

GLIMPSES BY THE WAY.

[Continued.]

June 14.—From Hartford to Springfield we go by boat, and see nothing distinctly but the banks of the river. The soil on the banks of the Connecticut here near the lines of Connecticut and Massachusetts, is apparently good, and is fairly cultivated. We regret our inability to accept an invitation to visit Henry Watson, Esq., of East Windsor, and view his stock and lands. From Springfield to Northampton by stage, we see some fertile spots and good farming. In South Hadley, we passed the fine farm of Paoli Lathrop, Esq, and we have no where else seen equal luxuriance in grass, and no where else have our glimpses caught indications of better farming.

The Northampton meadows in part have been seriously injured by deep deposits of sand upon them during the spring freshets. Report said that one four-acre lot in Hadley or South Hadley, which last year would have brought $400 per acre, has been sold recently for $25 per acre. We give the report as it came to our ears from the lips of a stranger, while we stood upon the summit of Mount Holyoke, and were gazing down. The damage, however, is limited to a comparatively small part of the meadow.

19*th.*—On the way to Brattleboro', Vt., vegetation seems more advanced than in the valley nearer the mouth of the river. And in Charlestown, N. H., we find larger corn and grass than we have seen before. One farm here which we were told belonged to a Mr Mulliken, surpasses in neatness and apparent fertility, any other that we have seen in all our journey. We were sorry that we could not stop and make the acquaintance of one who gives a farm so much simple beauty.

21*st.*—On the way from Claremont to Concord, we met occasionally with a pleasant spot for tillage, but prevailing rocks and stumps *covered* the ground. How the people came to fix down there, and how they subsist now they are there, are questions too deep for us to answer. As we came near the Merrimack, we found the soil generally more sandy and less fertile than on the banks of the Connecticut. The rocks of the subsoil are rounded and are colored with iron, and the subsoil itself is porous, and such as would cause the lands to suffer much in times of drought.

Saturday morning found us back to the city, after an absence of a little more than two weeks. Our object and our modes of travel were incompatible with any thing like an accurate view of the agricultural operations of the sections of country through which we passed, and therefore our account can be only general and brief.

☞Messrs. Jordan & Co. have sent us from their "Depot of Cheap Works," 121 Washington street, Part IX of the Farmers' Encyclopedia. This is a work of value, and we recommend it as a desirable addition to the shelves of every agricultural library. The work is published in monthly parts, at 25 cts. The nine published numbers can be inspected at Messrs. Jordan & Co.'s.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Saturday, July 1, 1843.

The show of Strawberries today was among the best, if not the very best, this season.

From Capt. Charles Robbins, South Boston—one box of Keen's Seedling, one of Royal Scarlet, and one of Methven Castle Strawberries—all of them very excellent.

From Messrs. Hovey & Co.—one large basket and three boxes of Hovey's Seedling Strawberries, one basket of a new seedling, and trusses showing the great productiveness of each kind, also, 1 box Bishop's Orange.

From John A. Kenrick, Newton—two boxes of Tartarian Cherries.

From J. F. Allen, Salem—Black Hamburg, White Chasselas, Muscat of Alexandria, Black Grape from St. Michael, (Azores,) Frontignac and Barrasaube Grapes—all superior specimens. One box of Hovey's Seedling Strawberries, the best box in the hall, and one dish of Royal George Clingstone Peaches.

From Dr. John C. Howard—an extraordinary large and well colored bunch of Black Hamburg Grapes—supposed to be the largest berries ever exhibited in the hall. White Chasselas and Burgundy Grapes.

From the President of the Society—Hovey's Seedling Strawberries.

From Wm. Kenrick—"May Apples," (growth of this year,) perfectly ripe—sent from Smithfield, Va., by Richard Reynolds, Esq., of that place. This is a small pale green fruit, of pleasant flavor. At that place, they usually ripen in May, and are earlier than any other variety known.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, Brighton—eight boxes of Warren's Seedling Strawberries, one box of Downton Strawberries, two boxes French Cherries, and two boxes of Downton Cherries.

For the Committee,

SAMUEL POND.

EXHIBITION OF VEGETABLES.

From Messrs. Hovey & Co.—Superb Black Spine, and Cuthill's Black Spine Cucumber, 15 inches long, new and fine in appearance.

A dish of well ripened Tomatoes, from J. F. Allen, Salem. JNO. A. KENRICK.

[Owing to the sickness of the Chairman of the Flower Committee, and the absence of other members of the same committee, no official account of the flowers exhibited has been received. The show was a very fine one, and we regret our inability to give a report of it today, with the premiums awarded for Pinks and Roses. —*Trans.*]

THE BUG POISON.

This article, which we mentioned four weeks ago, as having been sent to us by Mr Dey, of New York, has been fairly tried, but it answers no better purpose than plaster, ashes, charcoal, &c.

MAY APPLE.

Mr Wm. Kenrick exhibited at the Horticultural Rooms on Saturday last, a box of apples from Richard Reynolds, Esq., of Smithfield, Va., of this year's growth. They were perfectly ripe, and a fair eating apple, for one so early. Mr Reynolds thinks they would ripen in the vininity of Boston as early as June 10th. This apple is small, being an inch and a quarter to an inch and an half in diameter each way. Its color is pale yellow, with a blush of red on one side.

☞Hovey's Seedling Strawberry surpasses all other varieties exhibited at the Horticultural rooms. The berries are from three to four inches in circumference.

☞The Index to the last volume of the Farmer is in course of preparation.

☞We are a day later than usual this week in the publication of the paper, on account of the Glorious Fourth.

THERMOMETRICAL

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Gardenof the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, for the week ending July 2.

July, 1843.		7, A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	26	68	80	70	E.
Tuesday,	27	66	88	78	S. W.
Wednesday,	28	72	96	78	S. E.
Thursday,	29	71	90	79	E.
Friday,	20	71	84	78	E.
Saturday,	1	72	86	78	E.
Sunday,	2	72	92	75	S. E.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, July 3, 1843.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At Market 410 Beef Cattle, 12 pair working Oxen, 2150 Sheep and 550 Swine. 80 Beef Cattle unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—We reduce our quotations. A very few extra probably brought a trifle more than our highest quotations. First quality, $4.75. Second quality, $4.25 a $4.50. Third quality, $3.75 a $4.25.

Working Oxen.—Sales $60, $72 a $85.

Sheep.—Lots were sold from $1.12 to $2.00, and a few at $2.25.

Swine.—A lot of small pigs for roasters at 7, Old Barrows 4 1-4. A lot to peddle 4 1-2. A lot to close, 3 3-4. At retail from 4 to 5 1-2.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $0 00 to 2 50 per bushel. Red Top 45 to 50 cents. Clover—Northern, 00 to 12c.—Southern, 0 a 9 c. Flax Seed, $6 00 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $4 50 per bushel.

GRAIN. Duty, Corn, Rye and Beans, free; Barley 20 per cent.; Oats 20 per cent.

The market at the close very quiet, but for good Corn there still continues a fair demand, at improved rates.

Corn—Northern, old, bushel 61 to 62—Southern, round yellow, old, 60 a 61—Southern flat yellow, new, 59 a 60—do. do. white 53 a 55—do New Orleans, 50 a 53—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 00 a 70—do. Southern, 60 a 62—Oats, Southern, 30 a 31—Northern do. 32 to 33—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 23 a 25—Bran, 15 a 18.

FLOUR. There has been an evident disposition on the part of the holders, for a day or two past, to effect an advance, and prices in consequence are less firmly sustained.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $5 62 a 5 75 —do. wharf, $0 00 a 0 00 do. free of garlic, $5 62 a 5 75—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $5 50 a 5 62 —Fredericksburg, low l'd 4 mos. $5 62 a 5 75—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 0 00 a 0 00 —Georgetown, $5 50 a 6 00—Richmond Canal, $5 62 a 5 75 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $5 75 a 0 00— do fancy brands $5 87 a 6 00 — Ohio via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $5 00 a 5 75. Rye, $3 25 a 3 50—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 87 a 3 00.

PROVISIONS. The principal sales of the week have been for ship stores and for whalemen, prices being fully sustained.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $8 00 a 8 50—Navy—$7 50 a 7 75.—No. 1, 0 00 a 7 00—do Prime 50 00 a 0 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $13 00 a 13 50—do Clear $0 00 a 12 00 do. Mess, 10 50 a 11 00—do Prime $8 50 a 9 50—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 a 0 00— —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00— Butter, shipping, 0 a 00—do store, uninspected, 7 a 8—do dairy, 10 cts. a 14—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 00 a 00 —do South and Western, 5 a 6½ — Hams, Boston, 6 a 6½ — Southern and Western, 5½ a 6—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 4 a 6—do new milk, 5½ a 6½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, free. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 30 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts per pound.

Several parcels of the new clip have been brought to market, but the sales are not of sufficient amount to establish prices.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 36 a 40 c.—American full blood do 33 a 34—Do. 3-4 do 32 a 00—Do. 1-2 do 29 a 30—1-4 and common do 25 a 27 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 23— Do. unwashed, 10 a 13—Bengasi do 8 a 10—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 12 a 16—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 26 a 30—No. 1 do. do. do. 23 a 25—No. 2 do do do 15 a 20—No. 3 do do do 12 a 15.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

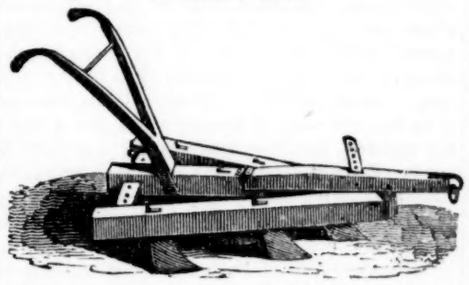
1st sort Mass. 1842, lb. 12 a 13. 2d do. do. do. 0 a 0.

HAY, 14 to 16 per ton—Eastern Screwed $10 to 12.

CHEESE—Shipping and 4 meal, 4 to 6c.—New 6 to 7.

EGGS, 11 a 12.

CULTIVATORS.



Howard's Improved Fixed and Expanded Cultivators, of all sizes. The cultivator is an implement that is coming into very general use in all parts of the country, and serves in a great measure in lieu of hoeing. The teeth are so constructed as to raise the ground, and leaves it very light and free for cultivation, and at the same time destroys the weeds.

These Cultivators are best adapted to free and easy ground, for running through rows of corn, potatoes and vegetables of all kinds, and used in the cultivation of Hops, instead of the plough and hoe, and are found far superior to either. It is likewise well adapted to harrow in grain and grass seed; and for the many uses to which this implement may be applied, it must be considered one of the most valuable and useful tools that is used on a farm, and is coming into very general use.

For sale by J. BRECK & CO., Nos. 51 and 52 North Market st. June 28.

HARRIS' TREATISE ON INSECTS.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Harris' Treatise on Insects. Price $2. Also, the second edition of Dana's Muck Manual, price 62½ cts. Feb 15.

POUDRETTE! POUDRETTE!!

The subscribers keep constantly on hand, and for sale, Poudrette in quantities to suit purchasers; packed in Barrels in order for shipping, or transportation by wagon or Rail Road.

The experience of five years past has satisfied many farmers, that this manure has the quickest operation upon vegetable matter, producing greater abundance, and is the cheapest manure they have ever tried.

Orders left at the New England Seed Store, and at the factory in Brookline, will meet with prompt attention.

For sale by J. BRECK & CO, 51 and 52 North Market st., Boston. Oct. 26.

SILK BUSINESS.

Silk Worm Eggs, Pea nuts, and Sulphurs, at $3 50 per ounce.

Mulberry Trees. Cantons and Multicaulis at $60 per thousand delivered in Boston, by J. R. BARBOUR.

Oxford, Jan. 25, 1843. } Feb. 1.
Near Depot on N. and W. R. Road. }

SEED BARLEY.

100 bushels prime Seed Barley, for sale by

April 25. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

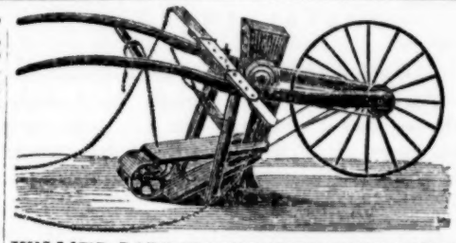
MUCK MANUAL.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., The Muck Manual for Farmers. By Dr S. L. Dana; price 62½.

Boston, April 13.

DRAFT AND TRACE CHAINS.

400 pair Trace Chains, suitable for Ploughing.
200 " Truck and leading Chains.
200 " Draft Chains. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.



WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED SEED SOWER.

WILLIS has made some considerable improvements in his Seed Sower, making it complete as time and hard study can possibly make it. In using this machine, the farmer may be certain that his seed is put into the ground, and at the same time in the best possible manner. There has been a great difficulty in machines for sowing garden seeds; they are very apt to clog up, and the farmer might go over an acre of land and not sow a single seed; but not so with this; it is so constructed that it cannot possibly clog. In using this sower, the farmer can save one half of his seed, and do the work at less than one quarter the expense of the common way of sowing his seeds, and have it done in a much better manner; it opens the furrow, drops the seed, covers it over and rolls them down. It will sow any kind of Garden Seeds; say Ruta Buga, Mangel Wurtzel, Turnips, Carrots, Beets, Parsnips, Onions, &c.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, Boston, Market Street.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

SAYLE'S GARDEN ENGINE,

A splendid article, will throw a constant stream of water to the distance of 50 or 60 feet, with great force, and in case of fire would be a good substitute for a fire engine. The most perfect article for the purpose ever introduced.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

May 24. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

REVOLVING HORSE RAKE.

The Revolving Rake which has been in general use in most parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, is found to be one of the most useful and labor saving machines now in use. One man and horse with a boy to lead, will rake on an average from 25 to 30 acres per day, with ease, and do the work well. They are coming into very general use in all parts of the country, and will, no doubt, in a few years supersede the use of the common hand rake. There is a great advantage in this rake over all others, as the person using it does not have to stop the horse to unload the rake.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street, Boston

May 24. JOSEPH BRECK & Co.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LONG ABSTINENCE FROM FOOD.

The exhibition of Mr Cavanagh, the Irishman, who professes to have lived for five years upon nothing but air, or, as Hamlet would say, "on the chameleon's dish," may render the following interesting to the reader.—*London Mirror.*

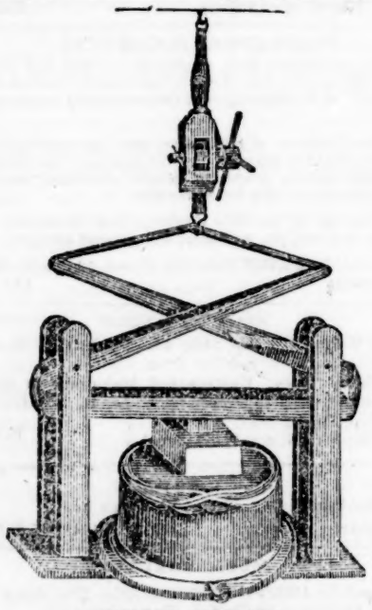
In a curious but instructive work, written by W. de Britaine, and entitled "Humane Prudence, or the Art by which a Man may raise himself and his Fortune to Grandeur;" eleventh edition, (London, 1717,) I find the following remarkable statements, which seem to contain a mixture of truth and falsehood, as is too often the case with old books:—"If nature," says the author, "could be nourished some other way than by eating, all danger of diseases would be prevented. There was a person of much honor, who told me that his grandfather, by reason of his studious habits, had his digestive faculties so enervated, that whatever he ate turned into crudities and obstructions. He, being a person of great knowledge, tried many experiments to repair it, but without any effect; at the last, he applied a piece of raw flesh to his stomach, and fastened it to it; once in twelve hours he applied fresh: in some time he found nature abundantly satisfied therewith, and had a rejuvenescency and renovation of all parts, and lived many years after in good strength and vigor, *without eating or drinking any thing.* How this may comport with reason, is worth the inquiry. We have observed in regard to drink, that all the time we sit in the water, we shall never thirst; for nature, by the pores, doth suck and draw in aqueous particles to satisfy thirst; and why may it not draw from the flesh a *succus nutritius*, which will support and preserve nature? Upon this reason, the physicians prescribe nourishing clysters to their patients, and baths of milk in hectic fevers, when the body is extremely low. Paracelsus tells us that a man of his knowledge, by applying of fresh sods to his stomach, lived without hunger half a year together. Nature is able to draw through her pores, in all parts of the body, such food as she desireth; otherwise how comes it to pass that many persons have lived a long time without eating any meat? Paracelsus, Licetus, and Cardan (men who made great figures in their days,) assure us that they knew some holy men that lived twenty years together without eating any meat.—[Grahamism, it would seem from this, is not so *new* a thing as some have thought it.]—Hermolaus Berbarus, and Joubertus have delivered to us, that one in Rome lived forty years, *only by the inspiration of air;* hence it was said by the cosmopolite, that there is in the air a hidden food of life. Ficinus, Crollius, and Randeletius tell us, that in the East Indies, near the river Ganges, there is a nation called Astomares, that *have no mouths:* they live only by the air and smells which they take in their nostrils, from roots, flowers, and wild apples, which they carry with them in long journeys. The air is full of balsamic, roscid atoms, and is ever sprinkled with a fine foreign fatness, which may perhaps be sufficient food to nourish the fine parts of our frame, whereon the temper of man and his life standeth. Olympidorus, the platonist, assures us that he knew a person who lived many years, and neither fed nor slept, but stood only in the sun to refresh himself. One Brawn, an *Irish* man, but a *Cornish* beggar, who lived to a great age, by reason of his simple course of life, had the honor of this inscription upon his grave-stone:

'Here Brawn, the common beggar, lies,
Who counted by his tale,
Some six score winters and above—
Such virtue there 's in *Ale.*

Ale was his meat, his drink, his cloth—
Ale did his death reprieve;
And could he still have drank his *ale,*
He had been still alive.'

"This discourse of temperance," says our author, in his conclusion, "will be looked upon as an extravagant phanzy, and I myself have the same opinion of it; but yet it is agreed by many learned physicians, that men and women have lived many years together without eating any food; but that death did not follow the taking away of the appetite, to me is wonderful. Languis thinks the cause to be the relaxation of the nerves in the orifice of the stomach; but this cannot satisfy a rational inquiry. Sennertus conceives that such beings are almost immortal, and little enhaled from them, because they consist of a tenacious humor, well compacted and growing fast together, and will not yield to the action of heat, that feeds on the nourishment; and their heat is most mild and gentle, and requires not much nourishment; but, I pray, consult the Adepti, those sons of art, and let me be silent."

Cross Answers.—A prisoner being brought before the Police Court, the following dialogue took place between him and the magistrate: "How do you live?" "Pretty well, sir: generally a joint and pudding at dinner." "I mean, sir, how do you get your bread?" "Generally at the baker's, your worship." "You may be as witty as you please, sir; but I mean simply to ask you, how do you do?" "Tolerably well, I thank your worship: I hope your worship is well." The culprit was remanded to prison.—*London pap.*

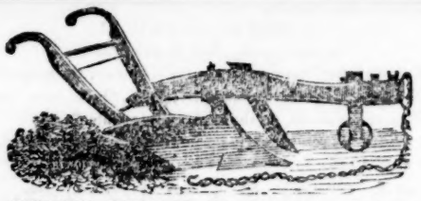


CHEESE PRESSES.

SELF-GOVERNING CHEESE PRESSES—two kinds—lately improved by the Shakers. These are so constructed that they govern and regulate themselves without weights, and are by far the best presses now in use.

For sale at the N. E. Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 52 North Market street. JOS. BRECK & CO.

June 7, 1843.



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has be n very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

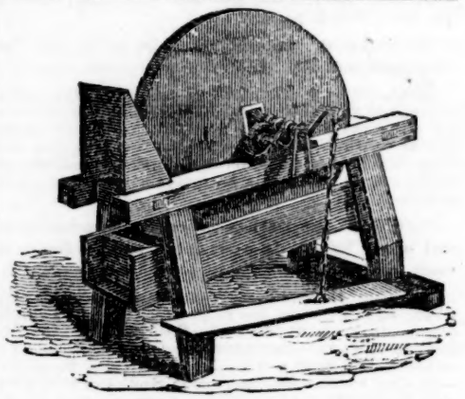
At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.



GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, is found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

LACTOMETERS—a simple instrument for testing the quality of milk. For sale by J. BRECK & CO.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance,* or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,
21 School Street.